



HI-Ω



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Issue 1

Prez Sez

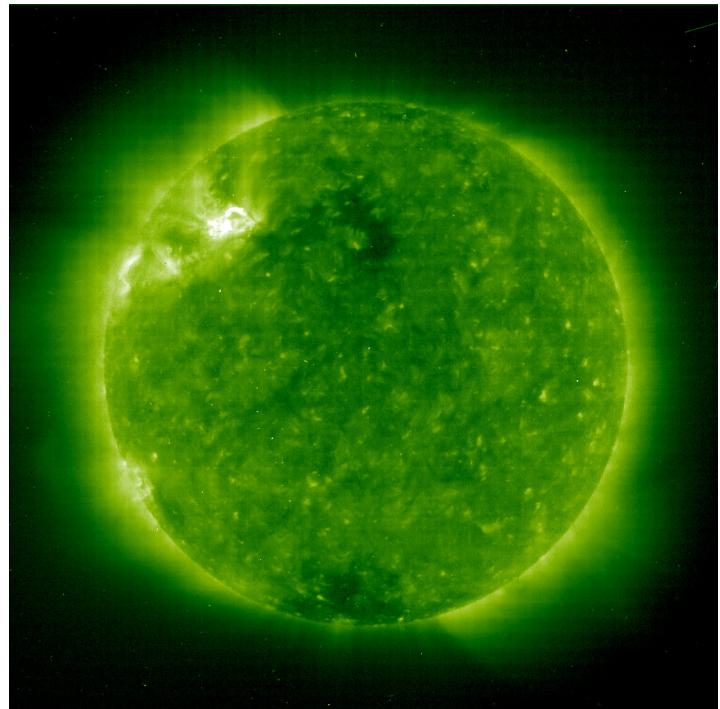
Welcome to a new decade. On behalf of my family, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone all the best in 2010. Some of you will remember the Y2K bug and to think we actually managed to get through another ten years only to get an epidemic bug in exchange.

I hope that this year will see some more sun spots and good dx coming our way. Since I have a bit more time on my hands these days, I have been listening on the hf bands. Seems to me that the conditions are changing rapidly when listening to foreign stations. The bands seem to getting full of people calling to make contacts all over the world. I also have had the opportunity to hear a lot of nasty comments and poor operating procedures that I want to make known. Many times I've heard people talking on SSB and then a CW signal comes up on the frequency or vice versa. A nasty exchange usually follows that doesn't seem to solve any problems. A quick check of the frequency will usually show that it is clear and if not, a brief interruption to allow the parties to make contact and move up or down the band. Another big problem that has come to my attention is that the newer radios have many optional filters that allow almost trouble free listening but with excessive power will wipe out the party that is only a couple of cycles away. This was very evident when a high power dx station dropped in a couple of Hertz away and started calling. The stations that were talking couldn't hear each other and the dx station had a "special filter" that virtually cut out the adjacent conversation. When the parties converged, the conversation was not conducive to the protocols that we should be adhering too. Please try your best to be a good operator and promote the hobby that we love. There are enough ill feelings in the world and we can surely rise above this petty bickering and offer our hobby in a positive light.

BRING IT!

Attending the meeting on 14 January? Don't forget to bring your favourite voltmeter. Our intrepid Mr. Unger will be discussing all things voltmeter, including accuracy and measurements.

SOLAR ACTIVITY: Today (9 January) has brought an uptick in solar activity. Sunspot 1040 (a.k.a. old sunspot 1035) is crackling with minor solar flares and seems to be gathering itself for something more. Just hours ago, the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory captured this C1-class eruption:



Courtesy www.spaceweather.com

73's

Randy VA3OJ

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Pat Doherty VE3PD
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President
Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Vice-President
Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924

Secretary
Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Treasurer
Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566

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Doug McCormack VE3EFC
Cliff Pratt VA3CLF
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LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

ARES District Emergency Coordinator
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CANWARN
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VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events
VA3JMS John 767-3631

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lesnick@tbaytel.net

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club - Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand - December 3, 2009	\$5,925.32
Income	
Bank Service Charge Rebate	\$7.00
50/50 Draw	\$7.50
Bank Interest	\$0.04
Total Income	\$14.54
Expenses	
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$47.83
Bank Service Charges	\$0.50
ARES Supplies @ ONN	\$226.30
Website Renewal	\$186.90
CNIB Amateur Radio Program - Donation	\$100.00
Meeting Expenses	\$85.98
Bank Service Charges	\$1.00
Total Expenses	\$648.51
Balance on Hand - January 7, 2010	\$5,291.35

Trailer Account

Income	
From previous bank	\$891.20
Interest	\$0.05
Expenses	
Nil	\$0.00
Balance in Trailer Account - Jan. 7/10	\$891.25

Joe "Computing" Coghlan - VE3TBX
Treasurer

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2
442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100****
144.390 APRS
VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

January HI-Q Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club 2010
Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

Date: December 10, 2009

President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.

Guest Speakers:

Wayne Gates from the EMS and 911 service, and Stewart Mooney gave an informative talk on different aspects of their communications and responsibilities.

Silent Key:

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ led the club in a moment of silence to remember Nestor Prokop VE3NPS, and he thanked everyone who attended the funeral.

Treasurer's Report:

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX moved to accept the report as printed in the December Hi-Q. Seconded by Brad Harris VE3MXJ. Passed Unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moved to accept the November's meeting's minutes as printed in the December Hi-Q. Seconded by Joe Coghlan VE3TBX . Passed Unanimously.

Old Business:

Public Service

John Sacek VA3JMS public events coordinator was unable to attend but emailed that the Sleeping Giant Loppet will be held on March 6, 2010 and that Norm Bell VE3XRC will be looking for volunteers at the January club meeting. Karl Hamilton VE3RRP read the Santa Claus parade report from December's issue of Hi-Q. No severe weather activated the CanWarn system.

ARES

Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC encouraged everyone to participate in the Tuesday night VHF Net on VE3YQT at 7pm. He also mentioned that if anyone would like to be in the rotation for net control station please let him know.

Upcoming ARES activities: Brad mentioned that everyone was invited to come to VE3ONN anytime from Friday December 18th 7PM (ET) to Saturday December 19th 7PM (ET) to take part in the RAC winter contest.

Repeater News

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ, reported that VE3TBR seems to have sensitivity problems with the IRLP and that will be worked on soon. He mentioned that the Grand Portage repeater is back on the air at 146.655, tone 151.4. They have a net on Sundays, 8 PM ET and everyone is welcome to check in.

RAC Report

Bill Unger VE3XT reported that there was still time available to book to use the call VA3RAC during the RAC winter contest.

Dinner Meeting in April:

Bob Hansen VE3RVA confirmed that the April Dinner meeting will be on Friday April 23rd at the Slovak Legion, for \$25.00 meal. There will be 2 guest speakers: Chris Walkins and Dave Shannon, adventurers who went to the North Pole. Tickets will go on sale at the February meeting. We need forty people to chow down to break even.

Club Trailer:

Bob Hansen VE3RVA reported that the trailer is winterized and sleeping. He reported that the trailer account has been closed and the funds were transferred to the LARC. Bob reported that he will compile trailer statistics from the logs for the membership. A VE3FW sign was created that looks similar to a license plate. Thanks to the donator!

New Business

50/50 Draw: Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Adjournment moved by: Brad Harris VE3MXJ

Next Executive Meeting: January 7, 2010

Next LARC Meeting: January 14, 2010.

Our Neighbours Could Use a Hand -- John Beargrease Sled Dog marathon

Folks, the 27th running of the John Beargrease Sled Dog marathon is soon upon us! The race begins on Sunday, January 31st at 1300 in Duluth and finishes up sometime Wednesday night, February 3rd. There are actually two races that are run concurrently - the Marathon which is approximately 370 miles and the Mid-Distance which ends in Tofte at a little over 100 miles. If you are looking for a winter radio challenge, then this could be it! We are in need of volunteers to help man road crossings and checkpoints on the trail from Tofte, MN and down to Duluth, MN.

For more information on the race, you can aim your browser to <http://www.beargrease.com/> to learn more. For those of you that might be interested in working at a Checkpoint, please contact Matt, KB0KQA, at kb0kqa@gmail.com and for those interested in Road Crossings, please contact Ben, K0BLR, at ben_ramler2002@yahoo.com for more information. You might want to include your hours / days availability in your contact info.

Thanks for your consideration and 73!

Rick - KB0BDN

Note: If you are interested but not sure, talk to Randy VA3OJ who has volunteered many times and can give you more details....ed

Freeze Your Buns Off Contest
The date is Saturday, 6 February , 2010, 1400Z-2400Z and we usually start at the Blue Parrot at 9'ish.
For more info contact Bill VE3XT/IV3

Atikokan Amateur Radio Club

In amateur radio lore towers are to best climbed in the worst weather. In that vein, last Saturday's climb was near perfect. Six members of the Atikokan Amateur Radio Club braved -20 degree weather to move antennas at the repeater site.

Warren Paulson climbed while Vic Prokopchuk, George Kora, Paul Johnson, Jason Johnson and Margaret Sumerleigh helped as ground crew (mostly retrieving gloves that Paulson dropped off the tower). The Atikokan repeater si co-located with the Atikokan Weatheradio station, which is maintained for the Town by the club. The repeater provides radio coverage over a fifty kilometre radius, allowing radio amateurs to stay in contact. The repeater is also linked to other repeaters in the region via the Internet, providing easy access to amateurs in Dryden, Fort Frances, Kenora, Sioux Lookout, Sioux Narrows and Thunder Bay.

The purpose of the tower work this weekend was two-fold: remove an unused antenna for use at Town Hall, and re-direct a beam antenna to Upsala. The Upsala antenna will be used to connect this repeater to another repeater located in that community. This will provide an improved emergency communications link for radio amateurs travelling east. Funding for this link project was provided through a Local Initiatives Grant provided by the AEDC.

The antenna being moved to Town Hall is part of an emergency amateur radio station setup there. This is a joint project between the club and the Atikokan Fire Department. This radio station is capable of providing local, regional and province-wide communications during emergencies. It can be used to transmit voice, e-mail and global position information.

Amateur radio is an interesting hobby and a vital communications tool. The club will be holding a Basic Licence course early in the new year. If you are interested or would like more information on the course, contact Warren Paulson (597-6989) or Vic Prokopchuk (597-6201). (*thanks Jan & Al Sokoloski*)

Net Controllers Needed

We are looking for net controllers for the 3.750 North-western Ontario HF net.

The net does run daily at 20:15 local time always.

This is what I have or had to this point, if interested please let me know.

Monday-Open

Tuesday-Linda VE3JBL

Wed-Lynne VE3JBL

Thursday-Was Rick VA3RGA, spot now OPEN as well

Friday-Open

Saturday-Open

Sunday-Norm VE3XRC

If you would like to lend a hand to the ARES effort contact Fred VE3FAL

LARC Annual Dinner Meeting

The annual dinner meeting of the LARC will be held on Friday, April 23, 2010 in the Slovak solarium. Tickets are \$25.00 and will be available in February.

We will have two very interesting speakers-Chris Watkins and Dave Shannon. They will be speaking about their trek to the North Pole.

Please mark April 23rd on your calendars.

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Happy New Year and Decade!

While over at ONN, the other day, I saw a 2 page listing of Amateur Radio HF Phone Nets. Made a copy and converted to a PDF file for electronic distribution. You may find it interesting to use as a reference and locate and participate in the various nets that appeal to you. (NOTE: *the pdf file is being sent as a separate file along with HI-Qed*)

Also, check out this link for another ham radio FREE Ezine http://ham.france.free.fr/crbst_17.html. Vincent has announced on the mag's Yahoo user group that he will continue to publish and attempt find a commercial

sponsor. Otherwise you can donate to the cause as you see fit. His Ezine presents a European view of Ham radio, and what they are doing across the Pond.

Don't forget about the other ham radio FREE Ezine published by CQ Magazine WorldRadio Online <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/WorldRadio.html>

There's a lot of free stuff (publications, software, etc.) out there for hams, so why not take advantage?

73,
Rob't, VA3ROM
<http://my.tbaytel.net/va3rom>

RAC/ARES NATIONAL EMC COMM FREQUENCIES		
SSB	Frequency	Tactical
75M - LSB	3.675 MHz	Alfa
40 M - LSB	7.135 MHz	Bravo
20 M - USB	14.135 MHz	Charlie
17 M - USB	18.135 MHz	Delta
15 M - USB	21.235 MHz	Echo
10 M - USB	28.235 MHz	Foxtrot
CW	Frequency	Tactical
80 M	3.535 MHz	Golf
40 M	7.035 MHz	Hotel
20 M	14.035 MHz	India
17 M	18.075 MHz	Juliette
15 M	21.035 MHz	Kilo
10 M	28.035 MHz	Lima
Digital	Frequency	Tactical
80M	3.596 MHz	Mike
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
20 M	14.096 MHz	Oscar
17 M	18.096 MHz	Papa
15 M	21.096 MHz	Quebec
10 M	28.096 MHz	Romeo

<http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/racaresfreqs.htm>

North East Regional Directors Report January 2010



The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on December 17, 2009 starting at 2330Z.

All of the business conducted was of a routine nature.

This letter will be a “Help Wanted” article. One of the positions that the Board of Directors has decided would be of great value to RAC would be a Coordinator of Philanthropy. This position would entail you talking to other Amateurs who may want to help RAC by donating to RAC either now or in the future as part of their legacy. There are Amateurs who are capable of helping RAC but do not know how to do this. Your job would be to facilitate their wishes and ensure they are remembered as a supporter of RAC. If you think this position may be a good fit for you please contact me.

Our new President Geoff, VE4BAW is now taken over as have several new Executive and I believe 2010 should be a year that RAC does well.

As always I would appreciate if you could mention to your fellow amateurs the benefits of supporting RAC so we can have a strong voice both with Industry Canada and other Amateur and Professional Organizations here and abroad. RAC belongs to the Radio Advisory Board of Canada. This is an organization of all organizations that utilize the RF Spectrum. RAC is there to ensure our valuable resources are protected. This is another benefit of a strong RAC. You can see the RAC logo among the other members including: CBC, Bell and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters to name a few.

Check it out <http://www.rabc-cccr.ca/home.cfm?lang=en>

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

All best to you and your families in 2010.

73

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario
Regional Director



**Are you a
RAC member??**

<http://www.rac.ca>

January 2010

Mon	Tue VHF ARES NET on YQT	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun Grand Portage repeater net
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 LARC Meeting 7:30	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

In February 6th-Freeze Yer Buns Off contest, 11th - Regular meeting